



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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FORMER U.N. PROCUREMENT OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL CHARGES  
ARISING FROM HIS RECEIPT OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS  
FROM FOREIGN COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS WITH THE U.N.

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that United States District Judge WILLIAM H. PAULEY accepted the guilty plea today in Manhattan federal court of ALEXANDER YAKOVLEV, a former employee of the United Nations, to conspiracy, wire fraud and money laundering charges arising from YAKOVLEV's receipt of at least several hundred thousand dollars from foreign companies in connection with the performance of his duties as a procurement officer at the United Nations between 1993 and 2005. This guilty plea stems from the United States Attorney's Office's long-term investigation of the United Nations Oil-for-Food Program.

As charged in the criminal Information filed today, in 2000, YAKOVLEV, while working as a procurement officer at the United Nations, established the company Moxycos, Ltd. to facilitate the illicit and secret payment of money to him by foreign companies seeking to secure contracts to provide goods and services to the United Nations. Thereafter, YAKOVLEV received wire transfers sent to bank accounts in

Antigua and Switzerland from foreign companies in exchange for providing information to companies about United Nations contracts that were up for bid and for assisting companies to obtain United Nations contracts.

The Information charges that YAKOVLEV received wire transfers from, among others: "foreign company 1," for providing that company with information from the United Nations regarding a bid for contracts related to the airlifting of United Nations supplies to foreign countries; and "foreign company 2" and "foreign company 3," in return for his assistance in helping those companies obtain contracts with other companies that engaged in business with the United Nations.

The Information further charges that in 1996, YAKOVLEV, as part of his scheme to defraud the United Nations of his full and faithful services as a procurement officer, faxed from New York to a representative of a foreign company information related to that company's bid for an inspection contract under the United Nations' Oil-for-Food Program.

YAKOVLEV pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, one count of wire fraud, and one count of money laundering, each of which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the offense.

Mr. KELLEY praised the investigative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In addition, Mr. KELLEY thanked the United Nations Office of Investigative Oversight Services for its assistance

in the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys EDWARD O'CALLAGHAN, STEPHEN MILLER, MICHAEL FARBIARZ and MICHAEL LEVY are in charge of the prosecution.

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